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REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 12, and 13 are amended herein. No new matter is added by the amendments, which are supported throughout the specification and figures. In view of the amendments and following remarks, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9, and 11-16 are rejected as anticipated by United States Patent Publication No. 2004/0181603 to Rajahalme (hereinafter referred to as Rajahalme). Applicants respectfully traverse.

It appears that the rejection includes a typographic error, and should not have included claim 16, which was also rejected based on 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Clarification of the rejection is respectfully requested in the next Office communication.

The Office Action maintains that Rajahalme discloses the features of claim 1 in paragraphs 41 and 47. Applicants maintain that the feature of the identifying information identifying a specific mobile IP terminal and the identifying information which identifies the specific mobile IP terminal is used to connect to a destination server, is not disclosed in Rajalme. However, in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants herein amend the independent claims.

Claim 1 relates to a load balancer that includes, *inter alia*, means extracting identifying information specific to a mobile IP terminal from an arrival packet. Amended claim 1 further recites means determining *a single destination server, from among a plurality of servers*, to be connected based on the identifying information, in which *the destination server corresponds to a destination of the packet*. In the load balance of claim 1, *the destination server is associated with the mobile IP terminal according to a load balancing algorithm*.

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According to the amended claim, a *single* server associated with a transmitting source according to a load balancing algorithm is determined from among *a plurality of servers* corresponding to a destination of a packet based on identifying information *specific* to each mobile IP terminal. In the present invention, the load balancing algorithm of the present invention includes specific means that enable the mobile IP terminal to *reliably communicate with the same server before and after the mobile IP terminal moves from one network connected to another connected network* based on identifying information specific to the mobile IP terminal which is unchanged even if the mobile IP terminal moves from one connected network to another connected network during the communication.

In contrast, Rajahalme, as well as Luke, fails to disclose or suggest means enabling the mobile IP terminal to *reliably communicate with the same server before and after the mobile IP terminal moves from one connected network to another connected network*. None of the references disclose or suggest determining a single destination server corresponding to a destination of the packet *according to a load balancing algorithm*, nor does Rajahalme disclose or suggest *determining a single server from among a plurality of servers*, as recited in claim 1. Rajahalme does not address the problems associated with a mobile IP terminal, and therefore does not address the same load balancing issues discussed in the present application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Rajahalme does not disclose or suggest all of the features of claim 1, and therefore for at least this reason claim 1 is allowable.

Independent claims 5, 6, 12, and 13 include features similar to those discussed above in regard to claim 1, and therefore each of these claims is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 is allowable.

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Claims 2-4, 7-9, 11, 14, 15, and 16 depend from one of claims 3 and 4, and therefore each of these claims is allowable for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims are allowable.
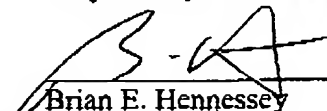
Claims 10 and 15 are rejected as unpatentable over Rajahalme in view of United States Patent Publication No. 2004/0133634 to Luke et al. (hereinafter referred to as Luke). Applicants respectfully traverse.

It appears that the rejection includes a typographic error, and should properly have rejected claim 16 and not claim 15. Clarification of the rejection is respectfully requested in the next Office communication.

Claims 10 and 15 ultimately depend from claims 5 and 6, respectively, and the addition of Luke fails to cure the critical deficiency as regards Rajahalme as applied against claims 5 and 6. Therefore, for at least the same reasons as claims 5 and 6 are allowable, claims 10 and 15 are also allowable.

In view of at least the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action. Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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